

The Comickall Historie of

Yet do not suddenly, for it may greeve him.

Sal. A kinder Gentleman treads nor the earth,
I saw *Bassanio* and *Antonio* part,

Bassanio told him he would make some speed

Of his returne: he answered, do not so,

Slumber not businesse for my sake *Bassanio*,

But stay the very riping of the time;

And for the Jewes bond which he hath of me,

Let it not enter in your minde of love:

Be merry, and imploy your chiefest thoughts

To Courtship, and such faire ostents of love

As shall conveniently become you there,

And even there his eye being big with teares,

Turning his face, he put his hand behind him,

And with affection wondrous sensible

He wrung *Bassanio's* hand, and so they parted.

Sal. I thinke he onely loves the world for him,

I pray thee let us go and find him out,

And quicken his embraced heavinesse

With some delight or other.

Sal. Do we so.

Exeunt.

Enter *Nerrissa* and a Servitor.

Ner. Quick, quick I pray thee, draw the curtain strait,

The Prince of Arragon hath tane his oath,

And comes to his election presently.

Enter *Arragon*, his traine and *Portia*.

Por. Behold, there stand the Caskets noble Prince,

If you choose that wherein I am containd,

Straight shall our nuptiall rights be solemniz'd:

But if you faile, without more speech my Lord

You must be gone from hence immediately.

Arra. I am enioynd by oath to observe three things,

First, never to unfold to any one

Which Casket twas I chose; next, if I faile

Of the right Casket, never in my life

To wooe a maide in way of marriage:

Lastly,

the Merchant

Lastly, if I do faile in fortune of m
Immediately to leave you, and be

Por. To these injunctions eve
That comes to hazard for my wo

Arr. And so have I addrest m
To my hearts hope: gold, silver, a

Who chooseth me, must give and ha

You shall looke fairer ere I give o

What sayes the golden chest, ha, l

Who chooseth me, shall gaine what n

What many men desire, that mar

By the foole multitude that choo

Not learning more then the fond

Which pries not to th'inheritou

Builds in the weather on the out

Even in the force and rode of cal

I will not choose what many me

Because I will not jumpe with co

And ranke me with the Barbarou

Why then to thee thou silver tre

Tell me once more what tittle th

Who chooseth me shall get as much

And well said to; for who shall g

To couzen Fortune, and be hono

Without the stamp of merit, let

To weare an undeserved dignity

O that estates, degrees, and offic

Were not deriv'd corruptly, and

Were purchast by the merit of t

How many then should cover t

How many be commanded that

How much low peasantry woul

From the true seed of honour? a

Pickt from the chaffe and ruine o

To be new varnish'd; well, but to

Who chooseth me shall get as much

I will assume desert; give me a

And instantly unlocke my fortun